

This award certifies that

*has completed all of the requirements to become a
National Park Service Junior Ranger and agrees to
abide by the Junior Ranger Code, which reads:*

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to:

- 1. Explore other National Parks.**
- 2. Obey all safety rules.**
- 3. Learn more about our country's history.**
- 4. Leave plants, animals, and historical objects
in the park as I found them.**
- 5. Take pride in our National Parks and help
to keep them clean and safe for everyone to
enjoy.**

*Certificate awarded at the Natchez National Historical
Park in Natchez, Mississippi by:*

Signature of officiating Ranger



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AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS



A program of the National Park Foundation,  NATIONALPARKS.ORG

Natchez

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Natchez National Historical Park
Natchez, Mississippi



Junior Ranger Program



Name: _____

Welcome to Natchez National Historical Park!

Today you will be learning essential skills to become a Junior Park Ranger. Natchez National Historical Park is one of over 400 national parks throughout the United States, set aside to protect the country's natural and cultural resources. Here in Natchez, our job is to teach people about the past.

By completing at least **FIVE** of the following activities, you can earn a Junior Ranger badge that will signify your commitment to help us preserve the history of Natchez, Mississippi!

Check off the activities as you finish them, then take your completed book to one of the park rangers who will award you with your badge.

- ☐ **Mississippi National Parks**
- ☐ **Melrose Scavenger Hunt**
- ☐ **Keeping a Journal**
- ☐ **Founding Fort Rosalie**
- ☐ **Natchez Word Find**
- ☐ **Creating a Family Tree**
- ☐ **Melrose Maze**
- ☐ **The McMurren Slaves**
- ☐ **Civil War Flag**

Activities marked with this magnolia insignia can only be completed at the Melrose mansion. All other activities may be completed at either Melrose or the William Johnson House.



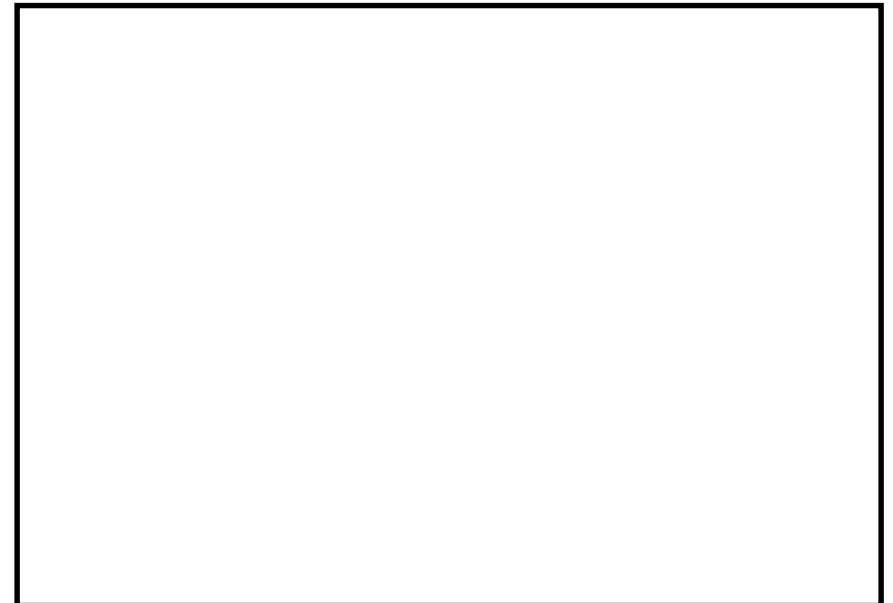
Civil War Flag

During the Civil War, different military units carried their own unique battle flags. These flags often listed the battles in which the unit had taken part or featured symbols representing where the unit was from. When a soldier captured enemy colors or saved his unit's colors, he usually received a medal of honor or was listed on a special role of honor.



This artillery flag belonged to a Natchez unit—one of 163 African-American units that fought for the Union Army during the Civil War. Approximately 180,000 African-Americans, both free blacks and former slaves, bravely fought for the freedom of their friends and families.

Draw your own Civil War flag in the space below. You may include the name of your regiment, a picture of your home, or representations of things that are important to you.





The McMurran Slaves

The practice of slavery was legal in the Southern United States until President Abraham Lincoln issued the *Emancipation Proclamation* on January 1, 1863. This important document declared that all of the slaves in the Confederate states were free.



The life of a slave was very difficult. The McMurran family owned a number of slaves who lived at Melrose and had specific jobs.

For this activity, you will need to go to the slavery exhibit located in one of the cabins behind Melrose. Listen to the narrated overview of slave life at the estate so you can match the name of one of the family's slaves to his or her job.

Rachel

Carriage Driver

Marcellus

Cook

Charles

Laborer

William

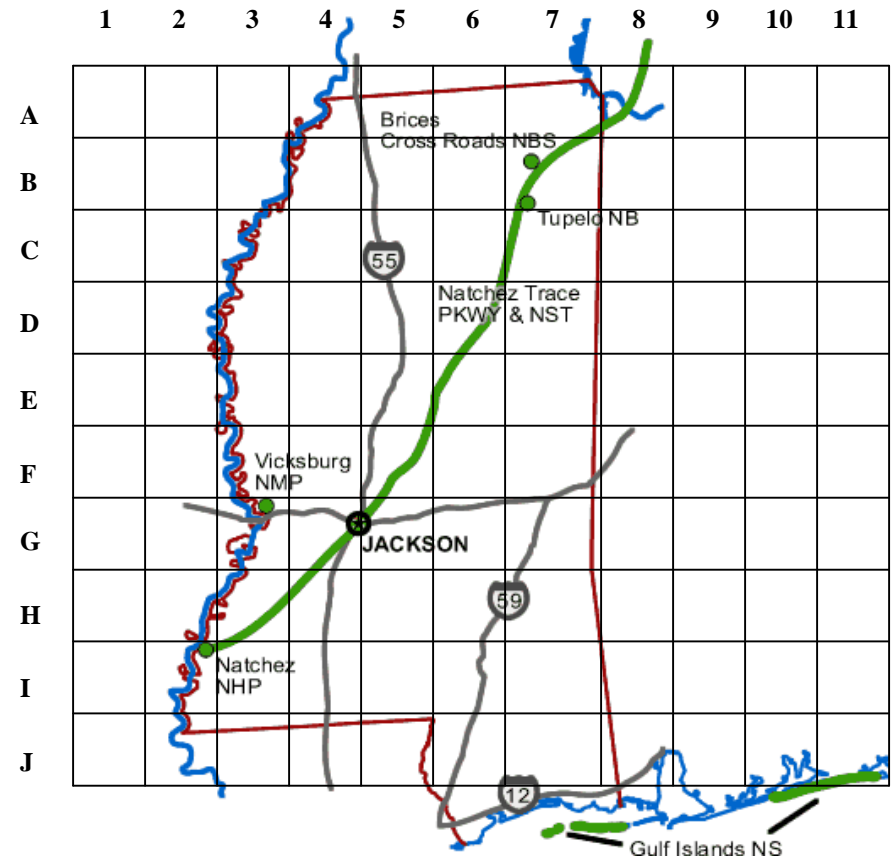
Cook

Mime

Butler

Mississippi National Parks

An essential skill for a Park Ranger to have is knowledge of cartography, or the ability to work with maps. Use the grid on the map to locate the approximate letter and number of the locations listed below.



Park

Grid Location

Brices Cross Roads National Battlefield Site (NBS)

Jackson, Mississippi (State Capital)

Natchez National Historical Park (NHP)

Tupelo National Battlefield (NB)

Vicksburg National Military Park (NMP)



Melrose Scavenger Hunt

Wealthy people who lived in Natchez and owned large homes like Melrose were called “Natchez Nabobs.” To complete this activity, you must participate in a ranger-guided tour of the Melrose mansion house. As you view each room, mark off the following items by matching them to their location in the mansion.* Ask the ranger if you need help identifying or locating items.

1. Floral painted floor cloth _____
2. Slave bells _____
3. Portrait of John C. Calhoun _____
4. Punkah fan _____
5. Jib window _____
6. Revolving game sofa _____
7. Piano _____
8. Sewing machine _____
9. Foot bath _____
10. Lace-patterned wallpaper _____

- A. Back porch**
- B. Dining room**
- C. Parlor**
- D. Mary Elizabeth’s Room**
- E. Library**
- F. Drawing Room**
- G. Back Hall (downstairs)**
- H. Mr. and Mrs. McMurran’s Room**
- I. John Jr.’s Room**



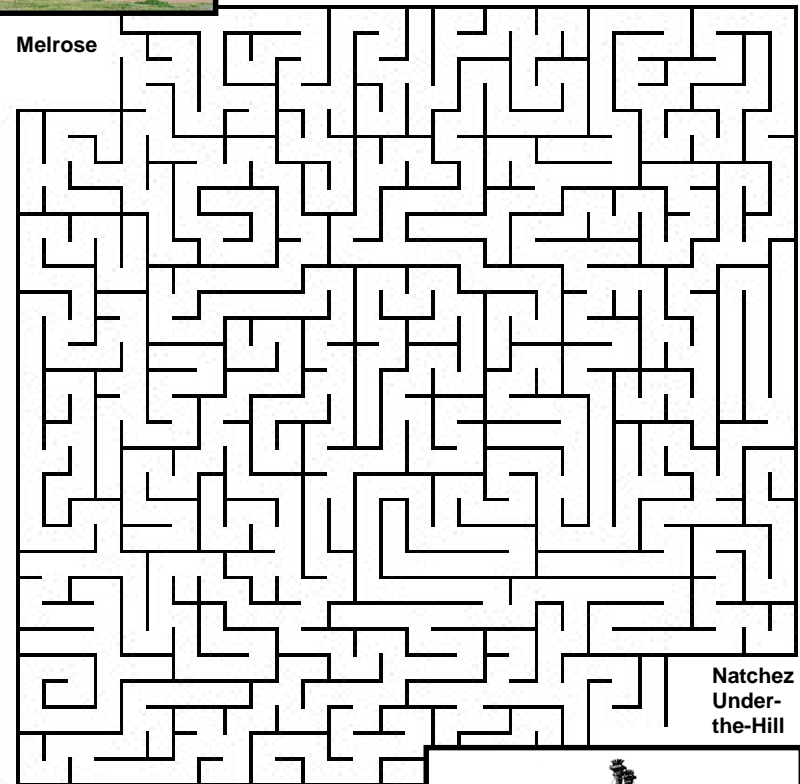
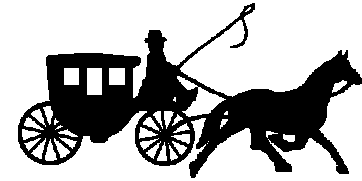
*Answers may be used more than once

Melrose Maze

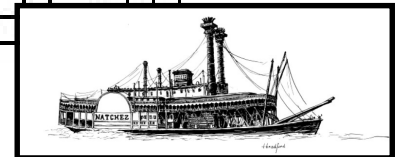
Mr. McMurran needs to get downtown to catch a steamboat to New Orleans. Help his carriage driver find the way to Natchez Under-the-Hill before Mr. McMurran misses the boat!



Melrose

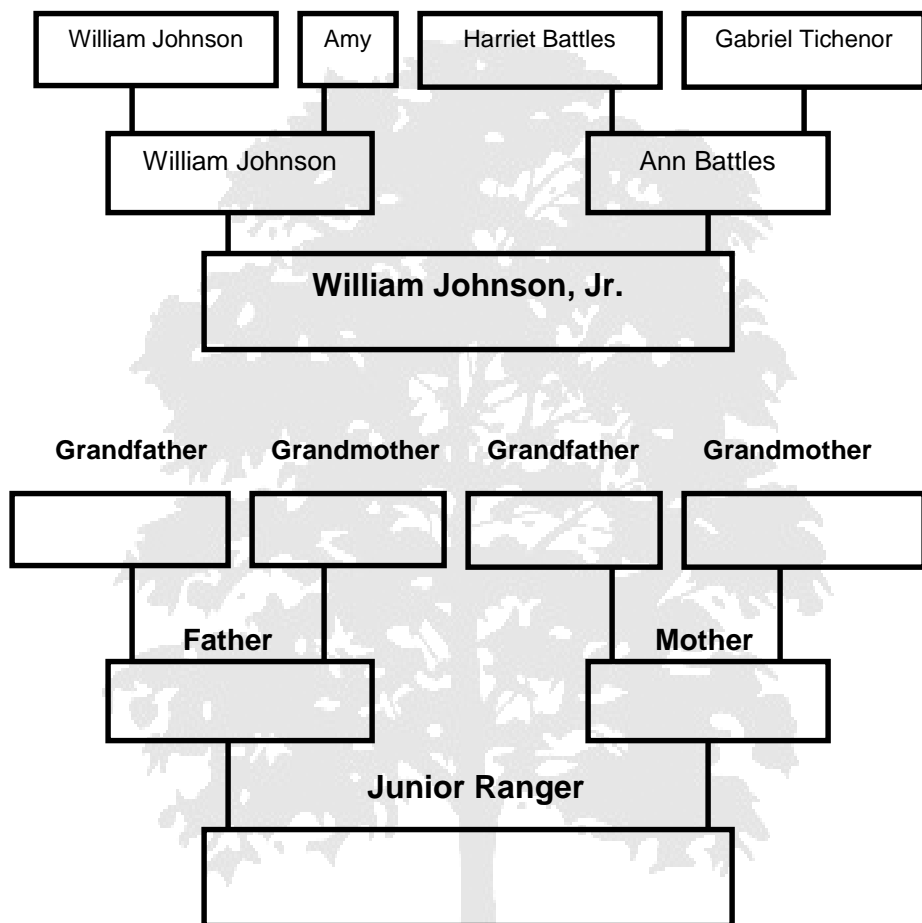


Natchez
Under-
the-Hill



Creating a Family Tree

An important part of historical research has to do with finding out where different people came from by identifying who their ancestors were. We create “family trees” to chart the parents, grandparents, etc. of a person. Here is a sample of William Johnson, Jr.’s family tree. He was the oldest of William and Ann Johnson’s eleven children. Try filling in as much information as you can for your own family tree below. Family trees often also include birth dates, birth places, death dates, and death places.



Keeping a Journal



In addition to Melrose, the Natchez National Historical Park includes the William Johnson House. William Johnson was a free African-American businessman and diarist who lived in downtown Natchez during the 1840s. He kept a 16-year diary which included information about day-to-day activities in Natchez. Because of

his diligence in keeping a journal, historians have a much better idea of what life was like back then.

What will happen when historians research the times in which you live? If you keep a diary, you can help them know what happened during your lifetime, just like William Johnson.

Try writing a journal entry of your own. Include things that have happened today that you think might be interesting for someone to read 100 years from now.

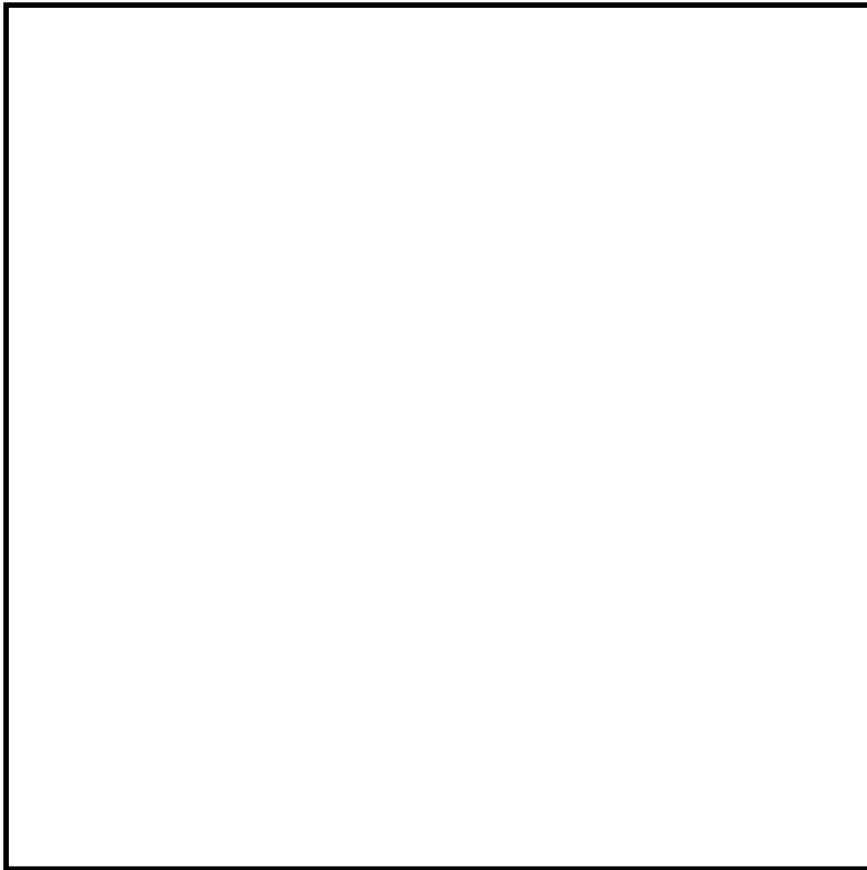
Date: _____

Founding Fort Rosalie



One portion of the Natchez National Historical Park that is not currently open to the public is the site of Fort Rosalie. The French built the fort in 1716, but it was later occupied by the British, Spanish, and Americans.

Fort Rosalie is no longer standing, but was located on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River in an area once occupied by the Natchez Indians. In the space below, draw what you think Fort Rosalie might have looked like.



Natchez Word Find

One of the important responsibilities of a Park Ranger is research. By searching for information about the past, we learn more about why things are the way they are today. Test your searching skills and find the listed words in the puzzle.

Y	H	M	A	V	E	K	J	P	T	D	D	A	M	P
M	I	S	S	I	S	S	I	P	P	I	N	E	F	R
R	X	H	B	L	A	E	A	A	D	T	L	M	E	L
G	I	J	T	N	D	H	K	M	E	R	N	V	C	S
F	A	B	W	Q	I	Z	H	B	O	A	I	B	T	P
R	S	R	R	S	D	S	E	S	R	R	V	E	Q	Z
E	U	G	T	D	D	L	E	R	R	N	A	G	H	K
W	X	O	U	V	L	J	U	J	O	M	A	P	C	M
R	R	P	V	U	O	M	Y	N	B	V	K	B	C	C
Y	O	M	M	H	C	A	O	O	A	D	O	P	O	U
Z	T	S	N	M	H	G	A	A	I	T	N	W	L	B
L	G	S	A	T	R	T	K	S	K	B	C	Q	E	X
B	O	I	G	L	R	E	G	N	A	R	Q	H	L	V
N	C	A	R	D	I	S	L	A	V	E	G	P	E	Y
L	J	L	X	D	M	E	Q	E	E	G	C	R	G	Z

ANTEBELLUM
 HISTORY
 JOHNSON
 MCMURRAN
 MELROSE
 MISSISSIPPI
 NABOB
 NATCHEZ
 RANGER
 RIVER
 ROSALIE
 SLAVE
 STEAMBOAT

